

above target, is also making efforts to provide one telephone connection per three households and one connection per two households in rural areas by 2007 and 2010 respectively.

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges into Electronic Exchanges

*133. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of telephone exchanges proposed to be converted into electronic exchanges in the country, State-wise; and
- (b) the details of financial allocation made by Government during the current year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) All the exchanges working in the Telecom Network of the country are already converted to electronic exchanges.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Facilities for BPL people in cities

†*134. DR. PRABHATHAKUR:

SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of people living below poverty line in small, big and metropolitan cities of the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government have taken any steps to improve the living standard of these poor people as well as to provide jobs and the facility of housing to them; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.